

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-09

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DRAFTED BY EA/TIMBS:REFRITTS:LGR
APPROVED BY EA - ROBERT B. OAKLEY
D - MR. PASCOE
PM - MR. ERICSON
DOD/ISA - COL. DOUSE (SUBST)
-----123555 200533Z /16
R 200142Z JUL 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 168853

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PINT, MASS, ID

SUBJECT: MINSTATE WIDJOJO-BRIG. GEN MURDANI VISIT:
MILITARY ASSISTANCE

1. DEPSEC CHRISTOPHER MEETING. DURING MEETING JULY 11
WITH WIDJOJO/MURDANI, DEPSEC CHRISTOPHER INQUIRED ABOUT
INDONESIAN INTEREST IN FMS CREDITS AND AVAILABILITIES.
MURDANI RELATED BRIEF HISTORY US-INDONESIAN SECURITY
RELATIONSHIP IN TERMS PREVIOUS USG ASSURANCES AND
INDONESIAN UNCERTAINTY OVER CURRENT US POLICY ATTITUDES.
HE NOTED THAT WITHIN BETTER FMS TERMS INDONESIA WISHED
MODERNIZE ITS AIR FORCE WITH A CORE SQUADRON OF F-5S AND
CO-PRODUCE THE M-16 RIFLE. HE IDENTIFIED THE PRINCIPAL
PROBLEM AS BEING ABLE TO CONTINUE MILITARY PLANNING ON THE
"BASIS WE AGREED YEARS AGO." IN RESPONSE, CHRISTOPHER NOTED
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THE PRESIDENT HAD ENUNCIATED A NEW ARMS TRANSFER POLICY
WHICH WE WERE BEGINNING TO REVIEW AND IMPLEMENT. THE NEEDS
OF COUNTRIES SUCH AS INDONESIA WOULD BE BALANCED AGAINST
THE POLICY OF LESSENING ARMAMENT BURDENS AND TRANSFERS.
HE HOPED FOR DECISIONS IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

2. POL-MIL. MURDANI ALSO MET SEPARATELY WITH PM DEPUTY

ERICSON WHO OUTLINED BASIC PROVISIONS NEW ARMS CONTROL
POLICY. MURDANI DETAILED NEED FOR F-5S, M-16 CO-PRODUCTION

AND BETTER FMS TERMS IN CONTEXT ASEAN STANDARDIZATION,
INDONESIAN AND REGIONAL SECURITY POSTURE AND INCREASING
GOI DEBT/SERVICE RATIO. DURING DISCUSSION, MURDANI WAS
INFORMED THERE COULD BE NO REPEAT NO GUARANTEE INDONESIA
WOULD NOT BE AFFECTED BY NEW US ARMS TRANSFER POLICY AND
MATTERS REQUIRING AN EXCEPTION WOULD NEED HIGH-LEVEL
USG DECISION. HOWEVER, NO PARTICULAR PROBLEMS FOR
INDONESIA WERE FORESEEN UNTIL AFTER FY-78. IN PRINCIPLE,
F-5S FOR INDONESIA WOULD NOT APPEAR POSE MAJOR DIFFICULTIES
WITHIN NEW USG POLICY. QUESTION OF M-16 CO-PRODUCTION IS
MORE COMPLEX AND WOULD, IN ANY EVENT, NEED BE ACCOMPANIED
BY FIRM INDONESIAN COMMITMENT NOT TO EXPORT. FMS INTEREST
RATE INVOLABLE, BUT GRACE/DURATION SOMEWHAT FLEXIBLE IF
SUPPORTED BY CONVINCING RATIONALE.

3. COMMENT: MURDANI DISCUSSIONS WITH NSC AND DOD
EVIDENCED SIMILAR SERIOUS AND SYMPATHETIC CONSIDERATION
INDONESIAN NEEDS WHILE MAKING NO USG COMMITMENTS. WE
UNDERSTAND MURDANI ARRIVED IN U.S. "VERY SKEPTICAL" OF
DEGREE USG INTEREST IN INDONESIA AND LEFT "MILDLY
ENCOURAGED". VANCE

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